

## **Snapper Vocabulary**

Adaptation-characteristic that allows an organism to live in its environment

**Conservation**-the protection of natural resources from loss or depletion

**Crustacean**-a class of aquatic arthropods having segmented bodies with a hard outer shell; these include lobsters, crabs, and shrimp

**Demersal**-(of marine life) persisting at the lowest ocean layers, the ocean bottom

**Embryo**-an organism in its early stages of development

**Estuary**-a semi-enclosed body of water that has a free connection with the open sea and within which seawater is diluted with freshwater from land drainage

Habitat-an area or environment in which an organism normally lives or occurs

**Larva**-newly hatched, wingless, often wormlike form of many insects

Otolith-earstone

**Pelagic**-of or pertaining to the open seas or oceans; living at or near the surface of the open seas

Predator-any animal that hunts for food

**Recruit**-period in snapper life history when the larvae settle to the bottom

**Species**-a group of closely related organisms that can interbreed

**Spawning**-the laying of eggs by aquatic animals

**Specimen**-sample; an individual representative of the whole group